

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE:0001

INQUIRE=DOC18D

ITEM NO=00588422

ENVELOPE

CDSN = LGX353 MCN = 92223/30812 TOR = 922232343

OTTUZYUW RUEKJCS9905 2232346-UUUU--RUEALGX.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

O 102346Z AUG 92

FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEADWD/OCSA WASHINGTON DC

RUEAAAA/CNO WASHINGTON DC

RUEAHQA/CSAF WASHINGTON DC

RUCGDEF/NATS PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC

RUEADWD/PTC WASH DC

RUFGAID/USEUCOM AIDES VAIHINGEN GM

RHDLNE/CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK//N2/N22//

RUEOACC/CDRPSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//AORC-POG-SB//

RUWSMXI/AMC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//IN//

RUQYSDG/FOSIF ROTA SP

RULKQAN/MARCORINTCEN QUANTICO VA

RUSNNOA/USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GM

RUFTAKA/USAINTELCTRE HEIDELBERG GM

RUEALGX/SAFE

O 102235Z AUG 92

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS IMMEDIATE 0238

RUFHRA/AMEMBASSY RABAT 1200

BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS STATE 256884

E.O. 12356: N/A

BODY

TAGS: PREL, PGOV, TS, MO

SUBJECT: TUNISIA, MOROCCO NAMED IN BCCI INDICTMENT

REF: TUNIS 6893 (NOTAL)

1. A NEW YORK COUNTY GRAND JURY RECENTLY HANDED DOWN INDICTMENTS AGAINST SIX KEY FIGURES IN THE ONGOING BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL (BCCI) CASE. POSTS SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE INDICTMENTS INCLUDE ALLEGATIONS THAT DEFENDANTS MADE IMPROPER PAYMENTS TO EMPLOYEES OF COMMERCIAL BANKS IN TUNISIA AND MOROCCO, AS WELL AS OTHER COUNTRIES. DEFENDANTS NAMED INCLUDE: AGHA HASAN ABEDI, SWALEH NAQVI, GHAITH R. PHARAON, KAMAL ADHAM, SAYED JAWHARY, AND FAISAL SAUD AL FULAIJ.

2. DISTRICT ATTORNEY ROBERT MORGANTHAU PRESENTED EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT ALLEGATIONS THAT BCCI OFFICIALS "SOUGHT TO SECURE A PREFERENTIAL POSITION FOR THE BCC GROUP IN

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

☒ RELEASE ☐ DECLASSIFY
☐ EXCISE ☐ DECLASSIFY
☐ DENY IN PART
☐ DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions _____
PA Exemptions _____

IS/FPC/CDR

MR Cases Only:
EO Citations _____

TS authority to:
☐ CLASSIFY ☐ S or ☐ C OADR
☐ DOWNGRADE TS to ☐ S or ☐ C OADR

DRP Date. 9/8/94

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE:0002

VARIOUS COUNTRIES THROUGH THE USE OF CORRUPT PAYMENTS OF MONIES AND OTHER BENEFITS TO POWERFUL INDIVIDUALS AND TO THEREBY INDUCE SUCH PERSONS TO MAKE AND CAUSE TO BE MADE DEPOSITS OF MONEY WITH THE BCC GROUP."

3. REGARDING TUNISIA, THE INDICTMENT ALLEGES THAT: "THE BCC GROUP MADE CORRUPT PAYMENTS TO EMPLOYEES OF TWO BANKS IN TUNISIA. FROM IN OR ABOUT 1985 THROUGH IN OR ABOUT 1988, THE BCC GROUP MADE AND CAUSED TO BE MADE PAYMENTS TO SAID EMPLOYEES ON AN AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTANDING THAT SAID EMPLOYEES WOULD PLACE MONEY OF THEIR RESPECTIVE BANKS ON DEPOSIT WITH BANKS OF THE BCC GROUP. MONEY WAS PLACED ON DEPOSIT WITH THE BCC GROUP, AND SAID PAYMENTS WERE CALCULATED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE FUNDS PLACED ON DEPOSIT."

4. REGARDING MOROCCO, THE INDICTMENT ALLEGES THAT: "THE BCC GROUP MADE CORRUPT PAYMENTS TO EMPLOYEES IN THE TREASURY DEPARTMENTS OF TWO COMMERCIAL BANKS IN MOROCCO. FROM IN OR ABOUT 1985 THROUGH IN OR ABOUT 1988, THE BCC GROUP MADE AND CAUSED TO BE MADE PAYMENTS TO SAID EMPLOYEES ON AN AGREEMENT AND UNDERSTANDING THAT SAID EMPLOYEES WOULD PLACE MONEY OF THEIR BANKS ON DEPOSIT WITH A BANK OF THE BCC GROUP IN PARIS, FRANCE. SUCH DEPOSITS WERE MADE, AND SAID PAYMENTS TO SAID EMPLOYEES WERE CALCULATED AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE AMOUNT ON DEPOSIT."

5. WE HAVE NO FURTHER INFORMATION AT THIS TIME ON THE BCCI DEFENDANTS' ACTIVITIES IN TUNISIA OR MOROCCO, BUT WE WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL DETAILS AS THEY BECOME AVAILABLE.

6. PRESS REPORTS, INCLUDING THE REPORT CITED REFTEL, HAVE DESCRIBED THE INDICTMENTS TO INCLUDE ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION OF "TOP OFFICIALS" IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES. IN TUNISIA AND MOROCCO THE ALLEGATIONS OF WRONGDOING APPEAR TO BE LIMITED TO COMMERCIAL BANKS.

7. INFORMATION IN PARAS 3 AND 4 IS FROM THE PUBLIC RECORD AND CAN BE SHARED WITH YOUR INTERLOCUTORS ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS. PRESS INQUIRIES CAN BE ANSWERED BY NOTING THAT WE DO NOT COMMENT ON ONGOING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS. INQUIRIES FROM THE HOST GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE PASSED TO THE DEPARTMENT. EAGLEBURGER

ADMIN

BT

#9905

NNNN

UNCLASSIFIED